

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/813,419

Applicant(s)

SAMES ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Ly V. Hua

2135

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's correspondence filed on October 25, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 20 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying Indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/25/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Ly V. Hua
Primary Examiner
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Reason for Allowance

1. Claims 1-24 are allowed

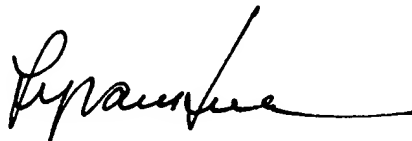
2. The columns in this table show the parallel between the independent claims 1, 9 and 17. The examiner's reason for allowance will be presented below.		
3. 1. A method a. for managing user attributes b. in a distributed computing system, c. wherein user attributes determine access rights to a computer application: d. the method comprising: i. modifying (1) an attribute database in order to create modifications, (a) wherein the attribute database includes (i) a plurality of possible user attributes and (ii) a data structure identifying a plurality of users; ii. obtaining (1) an identity certificate from a certificate authority; iii. associating (1) the identity certificate (2) with a user (a) from the plurality of users (i) within the attribute databases (3) thus creating more of the modifications; iv. assigning (1) an attribute from the plurality of possible user attributes (2) to the user; v. storing (1) the attribute assigned to the user (2) into the attribute database, (3) thus creating more of the modifications; and vi. distributing (1) the modifications to the attribute database (2) to a plurality of hosts (a) coupled together by a network; e. wherein the user is granted i. access rights ii. based on (1) the attribute and (2) the identity certificate.	4. 9. A computer-readable storage medium storing instructions that when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a method a. for managing user attributes b. in a distributed computing system, c. wherein user attributes determine access rights to a computer application d. the method comprising: i. modifying (1) an attribute database in order to create modifications, (a) wherein the attribute database includes (i) a data structure 1) identifying a) a plurality of possible user attributes and b) a plurality of users; ii. obtaining (1) an identity certificate from a certificate authority; iii. associating (1) the identity certificate (2) with a user (a) from the plurality of users (i) within the attribute database, (3) thus creating more of the modifications; iv. assigning (1) an attribute from the plurality of possible user attributes (2) to the user, v. storing (1) the attribute assigned to the user (2) into the attribute database (3) thus creating more of the modifications; and vi. distributing (1) the modifications to the attribute database (2) to a plurality of hosts (a) coupled together by a network; e. wherein the user is granted access rights i. based on (1) the attribute and (2) the identity certificate.	5. 17. An apparatus a. that facilitates managing user attributes b. in a distributed computing system, c. wherein user attributes determine access rights to a computer application: d. the apparatus comprising: i. a modifying mechanism configured to modify (1) an attribute database in order to create modifications, (a) wherein the attribute database includes (i) a data structure 1) identifying a) a plurality of possible user attributes and b) a plurality of users; ii. an identity certificate obtaining mechanism configured to obtain (1) an identity certificate from a certificate authority; iii. an associating mechanism configured to associate (1) the identity certificate (2) with a user (a) from the plurality of users within the attribute database, (3) thus creating more of the modifications; iv. an assigning mechanism configured to assign (1) an attribute from the plurality of possible user attributes (2) to the user; v. a storing mechanism configured to store (1) the attribute assigned to the user (2) into the attribute database, (3) thus creating more of the modifications; and vi. a distributing mechanism that is configured to distribute (1) the modifications to the attribute database (2) to a plurality of hosts (a) coupled together by a network; e. wherein the user is granted i. access rights ii. based on (1) the attribute and (2) the identity certificate.

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6. With regard to claims 1, 9 and 17:
 - a. The prior art of record fail to teach of suggest:
 - i distributing
 - (1) to a plurality of host
 - (2) a modification to an attribute database,
 - (a) which modification to the attribute database is a combination of:
 - (i) an identity certificate,
 - 1) which identity certificate is obtained from a certificate authority, and
 - (ii) an attribute,
 - 1) which attribute is:
 - a) from a plurality of attributes that are included in a data structure in the attribute database,
 - b) not obtained from a certificate authority (and is not a certified in an attribute certificate like the identity certificate),
 - c) associated with the identity certificate, and
 - d) assigned to a user.
 7. With regard to claims 2-8, 10-16 and 18-24:
 - a. These claims depend on claim 1, 9 and 17, which are allowable over the prior art of record and thus are also allowable.
 8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
 9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ly V. Hua whose telephone number is 571-272-3853. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vu Kim, can be reached on 571-272-5858. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.
 11. The applicant is hereby notified that:
 - a. The new phone number for TC 2100 receptionist is (571) 272-2100.



Ly V. Hua
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2135

Lvh
November 26, 2004